

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



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In the Matter of the Application of Marin Clean
Energy for Approval of the 2016 Energy Efficiency
Business Plan.

Application 15-10-014
(Filed October 27, 2015)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION BY
MARIN CLEAN ENERGY**

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August 12, 2016

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Pursuant to Rule 8.4 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, Marin Clean Energy (“MCE”) hereby gives notice of the following *ex parte* communication. The communication was requested by the California Energy Commission (“CEC”) and occurred on August 12, 2016 at approximately 9:00am at the CEC offices. The communication was oral and written. Elizabeth Kelly, MCE General Counsel, served as a panelist to the Energy Commission Workshop Regarding Barriers of Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (the “Workshop”). In connection with the Workshop, Ms. Kelly provided a summary of MCE’s energy efficiency, workforce and solar programs and a summary of MCE’s proposed low-income energy efficiency pilot before the CPUC which is included here as Attachment A.

Michael Colvin, Energy Advisor to Commissioner Sandoval, was in attendance for portions of the panel. The presentation lasted approximately two hours. There may have been other decision makers present via Webex but those participants are unknown.

During the presentation, panelist Elizabeth Kelly summarized MCE’s energy efficiency programs, workforce activities, solar offerings and low-income energy efficiency proposal (Low-Income Families and Tenants “LIFT” Pilot). Ms. Kelly’s summary was consistent with the written

one-page summary that was also distributed at the workshop and is attached here as Attachment A. Ms. Kelly addressed the barriers faced by low-income individuals for solar and energy efficiency, but did not advocate for any actions to be taken in pending CPUC proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Catalina Murphy

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Attachment A



Ruben Pedroza and family, MCE customer and RichmondBUILD graduate

MCE's Solutions to Barriers Faced by Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

MCE provides our low-income and disadvantaged communities with a wide range of energy efficiency and solar offerings. In addition, our Low-Income Families and Tenants (LIFT) Program proposes increasing the number of services that we offer to these communities.

Existing MCE Energy Efficiency Offerings

MCE currently administers energy efficiency programs in four key areas: multifamily, single family, small commercial, and financing. Due to CPUC requirements, MCE's current programs are limited to innovative offerings and areas not well served by other programs.

HIGHLIGHT: MCE'S MULTIFAMILY OFFERINGS

Since 2012, MCE has provided energy efficiency services to multifamily residences, which have included:

- » Energy assessments
- » Energy and water saving measures for tenant units
- » Technical assistance

DID YOU KNOW?

77%

of the multifamily residences that MCE's EE program served **WERE LOW-INCOME** (in 2015 alone)

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015, MCE HAS:

ACHIEVED
**389 MWH &
53,277 THERMS**
OF ENERGY
SAVINGS

SAVED
**15
MILLION**
GALLONS
OF WATER

AUDITED
627
MULTIFAMILY
BUILDINGS

DISTRIBUTED
\$427K+
IN REBATES

PROVIDED
1,179
UNITS WITH ENERGY
SAVING EQUIPMENT

Existing MCE Renewable Energy Offerings Available to Low-Income Customers

SOLAR INCENTIVES

MCE has allocated \$80,000 in rebates for new residential solar installations and partners with Grid Alternatives to offer \$800 rebates to low-income customers who install solar panels.

DISCOUNTED RATE

Low-income, CARE-eligible customers are able to receive the CARE discounted energy rate in full with MCE.

MORE RENEWABLES

All MCE customers receive 50% renewable energy by default. The following two MCE 100% renewable energy offerings are equally available to low-income customers and particularly benefit renters and others who are unable to place solar on their roofs.

- » Deep Green: 100% renewable energy for an average premium of \$5/month for residential customers.
- » Local Sol: 100% locally produced solar energy at a rate that remains fixed for up to 20 years.



LOCAL JOBS WORKFORCE

2,400+ TOTAL CALIFORNIA JOBS

MCE's commitment to community and the environment extends beyond supplying renewable power. MCE partners with local organizations and businesses to bring jobs home by investing in new community-based solar projects. MCE's contracted power projects have supported more than 2,400 California jobs. MCE follows a Sustainable Workforce Policy, adopted by MCE's Board of Directors.

SAN RAFAEL AIRPORT SOLAR PROJECT

As a model of business working to create local green jobs, Synapse Electric hired 20 workers, identified by the Marin City Community Development Corporation, a local job training program for low-income individuals, and CLP Resources, to install solar panels at the San Rafael Airport. The project was financed locally by the Bank of Marin and San Rafael businessman, Joe Shekou. San Rafael-based REP Energy designed the installation, REC Group manufactured 85% of the solar panels, and Power-One supplied all inverters. Both the solar panels and inverters were American-made.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY JOBS FOR LOW-INCOME & DISADVANTAGED WORKERS

MCE has contracted more than \$200,000 with RichmondBUILD, the Marin City Community Development Corporation, and Rising Sun Energy Center to train and provide workers to help implement energy upgrades for our energy efficiency programs. MCE is joining with Richmond Works on a new solar installation that will employ local residents under the Richmond Local Hire Ordinance.

MCE's Low-Income Families and Tenants (LIFT) Proposal

LIFT MULTIFAMILY COMPONENTS

- » Expanding on existing energy efficiency programs for income-qualified customers to provide additional incentives and achieve deeper energy savings.
- » Using an alternative enrollment processes to reduce concerns related to privacy and immigration status.
- » Creating opportunities for switching from natural gas combustion appliances to heat pumps in order to support cleaner and more efficient energy use.
- » Delivering On-Bill Repayment options for financing energy efficiency improvements.

LIFT SINGLE-FAMILY COMPONENTS

- » Launching a mobile platform-based behavioral program that encourages low and no cost changes to reduce energy use and save money.
- » Depositing funds equal to twice the energy saved to reinforce the existing savings; these funds can be spent on additional energy savings investments.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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